



# **KISII UNIVERSITY**

## **UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**FIRST YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF THE DEGREE OF**

**BACHELOR OF EDUCATION (ARTS)**

**SECOND SEMESTER 2023/2024**

**[JANUARY – APRIL, 2024]**

### **LING 123: SEMANTICS**

**STREAM: Y1 S2**

**TIME: 2 HOURS**

**DAY: THURSDAY, 12:00 - 2:00 P.M**

**DATE: 18/04/2024**

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### **INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. Do not write anything on this question paper.***
- 2. Answer question ONE (Compulsory) and any other TWO questions.***

### **QUESTION ONE**

- a) What do you understand by the word “semantics?” (2 marks)
- b) What are the contributions of the following scholars to the development of semantics? (12 marks)
- Michel Breal
  - Alfred Korzybski
  - Odgen and Richards
  - Leonard Bloomfield
- c) Describe the following forms of meaning. (8 marks)
- Thematic meaning
  - Conceptual meaning
  - Associative meaning
  - Connotative meaning
- d) Explain any four fallacies of misunderstanding in language. (8 marks)

### **QUESTION TWO**

- a) Explain the following theories of meaning. (12 marks)
- Ideational theory

- (ii) Referential theory
- (iii) Usage theory

b) Explain how semantics relates to other disciplines. (8 marks)

### **QUESTION THREE**

Explain linguistic variations that are evident in word order by using the following concepts. (20 marks)

- i) Tautology
- ii) Paraphrase
- iii) Ambiguity
- iv) Entailment
- v) Analyticity

### **QUESTION FOUR**

a) With the aid of appropriate examples, show how change in meaning overtime has occurred in linguistic semantics. (10 marks)

b) Briefly describe the major areas of emphasis in the study of semantics. (10 marks)

### **QUESTION FIVE**

a) What are the essential features of English words? (8 marks)

b) Identify any three figures of speech and explain how they enhance meaning in literary language. (12 marks)